

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-24: CANCELLED

25. (New) A seat belt device comprising:
a webbing; and
a belt tension sensor;
wherein one end of the webbing is connected to the sensor;
wherein the end of the webbing is folded to create a folded portion that passes through an opening the sensor.

26. (New) The device of claim 25, wherein the folded portion of the webbing includes stitching to maintain the webbing in a folded condition.

27. (New) The device of claim 25, wherein the width of the folded portion located in the webbing is less than the width of the opening.

28. (New) The device of claim 26, wherein the stitching runs transverse to the longitudinal direction of the webbing.

29. (New) The device of claim 26, wherein the webbing includes a second stitching located immediately adjacent to the folded portion to connect the end of the webbing to the webbing and form a loop that includes the folded portion.

30. (New) A seat belt device having a webbing passing through an opening in a webbing tension sensor, wherein the webbing located in the opening is folded and constrained from unfolding by stitching extending in a direction transverse to the longitudinal direction of the webbing.

31. (New) A seat belt including one end connected to the belt by a first stitching to thereby form a looped portion; wherein the portion of the seat belt adjacent to the looped portion is not folded and wherein the looped portion includes a folded

Appl. No. Unassigned

portion and a transition portion that fans out from the folded portion to join the unfolded portion of the seat belt; wherein the first stitching is located in the unfolded portion of the belt and wherein a second stitching is located in the folded portion to constrain the belt from unfolding.

32. (New) The device of claim 31, wherein the first stitching includes several rows of stitching.

33. (New) The device of claim 31, wherein the second stitching includes a single row of stitching.

34. (New) The device of claim 31, wherein the second stitching is located between the folded portion and the transition portion.

35. (New) A device including a belt tension sensor connected to the looped portion of the seat belt of claim 31.

36. (New) The device of claim 32, wherein the sensor includes an opening having a width greater than the width of the folded portion of the belt to thereby reduce the contact between the belt and sides of the opening in the sensor to improve the accuracy of tensile force being sensed by the sensor.

37. (New) The device of claim 35, wherein the sensor includes a carriage having an opening adapted to engage the folded portion of the belt and being configured to move upon application of a tension to the belt.

38. (New) The device of claim 37, wherein the sensor further comprises a spring positioned so that a spring force opposes the movement of the carriage in response to the belt tension.